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SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [UNSC](#) [PREL](#) [DJ](#) [ER](#) [ET](#) [XA](#) [XW](#)
SUBJECT: DJIBOUT-ERITREA: VOTING INSTRUCTIONS FOR FRENCH
RESOLUTION

¶1. USUN is instructed to vote in favor of the following
French resolution on the Djibouti-Eritrea crisis.

Begin text

The Security Council

Affirming its strong commitment to the sovereignty,
independence, territorial integrity and unity of both
Djibouti and Eritrea, and recalling the importance of the
principles of good-neighbourliness, non-interference and
regional cooperation,

Recalling that in the statement of its President dated 12
June 2008 (S/PRST/2008/20) it condemned Eritrea's military
action against Djibouti in Ras Doumeira and Doumeira
Island and called upon the two parties to show maximum
restraint and withdraw forces to the status quo ante,

Taking note of the letter of the Secretary-General dated
11 September 2008 (S/2008/602) in which he transmitted the
report of the fact-finding mission he sent following its
5924 meeting (S/PV/5924),

Expressing its deep concern that, as mentioned in the
report of the fact-finding mission referred to above,
Eritrea has not withdrawn its forces to the status quo
ante, as called for by the Security Council in the
statement of its President dated 12 June 2008(S/PRST/2008/20),

Reiterating its serious concern at the absence of dialogue
between the two parties, and at the refusal of Eritrea so
far to engage in dialogue, or to accept bilateral
contacts, mediation or facilitation efforts by
sub-regional or regional organizations or to respond
positively to the efforts of the Secretary-General,

Noting that Djibouti has withdrawn its forces to the
status quo ante and has cooperated fully with the
fact-finding mission mentioned above, as well as with
other missions sent by sub-regional and regional
organizations,

Taking note of the first visit to Asmara, since the
conflict of June 2008, of the Chairperson of the
Commission of the African Union in October 2008,

Expressing its deep concern about the continuing tense
border dispute between Djibouti and Eritrea and over the
possible impact of the grave and unstable security
situation in the area of Doumeira on sub-regional
stability and security after the serious incidents of 10
June 2008, which led to dozens of deaths and wounded,

¶1. Urges Djibouti and Eritrea to resolve their border
dispute peacefully, as a matter of priority and in a

manner consistent with international law, and emphasizes that it is the primary responsibility of the parties to set up the appropriate diplomatic and legal framework to this end ;

¶2. Reiterates its appreciation for the efforts by the Secretary-General, the African Union and the Arab League to engage both parties, encourages them to strengthen their efforts in this regard and encourages also regional and sub-regional organizations as well as Members States that are in a position to provide their assistance to this end to do so;

¶3. Welcomes the offer of good offices made by the Secretary-General, deeply regrets that Eritrea has continuously refused to grant visas to the members of the fact-finding mission mentioned above, or to receive any envoy by the Secretary-General, and welcomes the continued readiness of the Secretary-General to send a fact-finding mission or an envoy to Eritrea;

¶4. Welcomes the fact that Djibouti has withdrawn its forces to the status quo ante, as called for by the Security Council in the statement of its President dated 12 June 2008 (S/PRST/2008/20) and established by the fact-finding mission, and condemns the refusal of Eritrea to do so;

¶5. Demands that Eritrea :

i) Withdraw its forces and all their equipment to the positions of the status quo ante, and ensure that no military presence or activity is being pursued in the area where the conflict occurred in Ras Doumeira and Doumeira island in June 2008, and

ii) Acknowledge its border dispute with Djibouti in Ras Doumeira and Doumeira island, engage actively in dialogue to defuse the tension and engage also in diplomatic efforts leading to a mutually acceptable settlement of the border issue, and

iii) Abide by its international obligations as a member of the United Nations, respect the principles mentioned in article 2, paragraphs 3, 4, and 5, and article 33 of the Charter, and cooperate fully with the Secretary-General, in particular through his proposal of good offices mentioned in paragraph 3;

¶6. Demands that Eritrea comply immediately with paragraph 5 above and, in any case, no later than five weeks after the adoption of this resolution;

¶7. Requests the Secretary-General to provide to it a report on the evolution of the situation, and on the compliance by both parties with their obligations, and on his contacts with both parties and, as appropriate, with the African Union and other relevant regional organizations no later than six weeks after the adoption of this resolution;

¶8. Decides to review the situation six weeks from the adoption of this resolution, on the basis of the report mentioned in paragraph 7, with a view to taking, as appropriate, further decision;

¶9. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.

end text.

RICE